End of the Federal COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE)

Vaccines will remain available.

Access to COVID-19 vaccines will generally not be affected for now. The U.S. government is currently distributing free COVID-19 vaccines for all adults and children. If you are interested in getting vaccinated call Washington County Public Health at (518)746-2400 to schedule your appointment.



Treatments will remain available.



Medication to prevent severe COVID-19, such as Paxlovid, will remain available for free while supplies last. After that, the price will be determined by the medication manufacturer and your health insurance coverage. Check with your healthcare provider if you need early treatment to prevent severe COVID-19.

COVID-19 at-home tests may not be covered by insurance.

Insurance providers will no longer be required to waive costs or provide free COVID-19 tests. CDC's No-Cost COVID-19 Testing Locator can help people find current community and pharmacy partners participating in the Increasing Community Access to Testing program.

What does the end of the PHE mean for Washington County?



State and County reporting of COVID-19 will not change.

Although national reporting may change, county and state reporting for COVID-19 is not changing. Reporting of suspected or confirmed communicable diseases, including COVID-19, is mandated under the New York State Sanitary Code (10NYCRR 2.10,2.14). We still encourage individuals to report their positive at-home tests on the County website. If you still have expired rapid COVID tests, many manufacturers have extended those expiration dates. Check the manufacturer and lot number at fda.gov.



Isolation and Precautions have not changed.

If you test positive for COVID-19, stay home for at least 5 days and isolate from others in your home. End of isolation is based on how serious your COVID-19 symptoms were. Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation. Regardless of when you end isolation, remember to wear a mask when indoors around others through day 10.